MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 OCTOBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio that the Iraqi Navy destroyed two naval targets near Khark Island. In another statement over the radio, the spokesman disclosed that Iraq used planes and helicopters to wipe out Iranian forces in the Mandali region. The Iranian military headquarters meanwhile rejected Iraq's claim that it reoccupied territory Iran recently overran around Mandali, IRNA reported. Another IRNA report said that Iran repulsed Iraq's counteroffensive on 6 October and that Iraqi planes tried in vain to bomb Iranian positions. An Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio asserted that the air force hit Iraqi positions and that heavy fighting continued in the West, especially around Meymak. Although the radio announced that two Iraqi helicopters were downed in the southern sector, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA rebutted this claim. An Iranian commander told foreign journalists that Iranian forces have driven back 21 Iraqi counterattacks since the latest Iranian offensive began and that 39 Iraqi tanks were lost, while 9 tanks and 250 men were captured, Tehran radio reported.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko in separate meetings at the United Nations to discuss the Iran-Iraq war and other topics, according to INA reports.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad on 6 October, INA reported. They discussed the overall Arab and international situation as well as PLO-Iraqi relations.

Citing an "informed source" in Beirut, AFP reported that 'Arafat made a surprise visit to a Palestinian camp near Shtawrah in the Syrian-controlled area of Lebanon on the same day. However, monitored Lebanese media did not confirm the visit.

Jordan

In a message carried by Amman radio, King Husayn asked the prime minister to pardon 736 Jordanians involved in the 1970 security incidents. The radio noted that this request was carried out.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The Lebanese Army extended its search for arms and illegal residents to the southern suburbs of the capital, according to Beirut radio. In a statement broadcast by the radio, the army command revealed that the authorities detained 200 persons, mostly illegal immigrants, and confiscated four ammunition dumps on 5-6 October. Defense Minister Joseph Skaf said in a Voice of Lebanon radio interview that the raids are necessary and that the authorities have the right to deport illegal immigrants, including Palestinians.

Political Situation -- After further intensive talks with Lebanese political leaders, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met with President Amin al-Jumayyil to review the outcome of his consultations, Beirut radio reported. Noting that many of the blocs consulted by Al-Wazzan have demanded participation in the government, the radio said the new government is likely to be a broad coalition.

The Command Council of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murasitun issued a statement over the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio urging the new administration to demand that Israel withdraw from the south before the Syrians evacuate the Al-Biqa' Valley and to openly accuse Israel and its "Lebanese accomplices" of the Sabra and Shatila Massacres. Al-Murabitun's statement also expressed appreciation for acts of resistance against the Israelis, especially the 3 October ambush near 'Alayh.

In another development, former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam called for "correct" diplomatic relations between Lebanon and Syria, including the establishment of embassies, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Israel

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir told a London paper that Israel will release PLO detainees in Lebanon within the framework of an evacuation agreement, HA'ARETZ reported. He added that a solution for the withdrawal of IDF and Syrian forces is possible within a few weeks. Meanwhile, the prime minister's office declared that there is no dispute between the United States and Israel regarding the evacuation of foreign forces from Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported.

Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon totally rejected any IDF criticism of the government's policy in a military or public forum, adding that there must be "indisputable subordination" by the military to the political level. In an article for MA'ARIV, Sharon stressed that this "red line" must not be crossed and that any officer who wants to differ with the government should take off his uniform and enter politics. He regretted that some IDF officers have failed to recognize their limits in the political field.

Libya

A U.S. "spy" plane dispatched by the 6th Fleet was downed by Libyan air defenses on 2 September in the Banghazi region, Tripoli radio claimed. The radio explained that the disclosure was postponed until the wreckage could be studied.

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REPORTAGE ON BABRAK KARMAL'S VISIT TO HUNGARY

For Hungarian and Afghan coverage of the visit by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the Revolutionary Council, to Hungary, beginning 4 October, see the Hungary section of the 5 October Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

JASARAT: REBELS AMBUSHED NEAR QANDAHAR

GF060947 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 3 Oct 82 p 8

[Text] London, 2 Oct (AAP) -- At Siah Sang, near Qandahar, the Afghan mujahidin guerrillas destroyed one tank with its crew belonging to the Karmal army when some Karmal troops tried to surround a guerrilla group. Two guerrillas were killed and five others were wounded in this clash.

According to the Afghan Agency Press from Qandahar, eight mujahidin riding in two jeeps were ambushed by Afghan Government troops when the mujahidin were going to Arghandab for a guerrilla meeting in the liberated area. The guerrillas were armed with light weapons. Government spies reported their movement and the government soldiers set up an ambush at Siah Sang with two armored cars and one tank, with the aim of capturing the mujahidin alive. When the mujahidin, who were dressed as ordinary peasants, arrived at the spot, they saw a tank blocking the road. The majahidin left their jeeps and took cover behind rocks. The Karmal soldiers, using loudspeakers, asked the mujahidin to surrender, as they had been recognized. The guerrillas replied with fire. The fire exchange lasted for 4 hours, after which one guerrilla succeeded in breaking through the ambush and reached his headquarters.

While the remaining guerrillas kept the government forces engaged, 20 more mujahidin arrived at Siah Sang with rocketlaunchers. By this time, two of the seven mujahidin remaining behind had been killed. When the new mujahidin force arrived, Karmal troops began retreating toward Qandahar. The mujahidin destroyed one tank with its four crew members. Both jeeps belonging to guerrillas were also destroyed in the action.

BRIEFS

EQUIPMENT CONTRACT WITH USSR -- A contract for the purchase of equipment needed by the Nangarhar development project, at a cost of more than R2,121,000, has been concluded today between the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform and the Economic Consulate of Soviet Embassy in Kabul. The contract was signed in the presence of Dr Abdol Ghafar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, by the deputy agriculture minister and the Soviet Union's deputy economic consul and the documents were exchanged. A source said that this completion contract will be financed from the R200-million loan from the Soviet Union. [Text] [Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 5 Oct 82 LD]

BANGLADESH'S ERSHAD ARRIVES IN DELHI FOR TALKS

BK060804 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 6 Oct 82

[TExt] Chief Martial Law Administrator of Bangladesh Lt Gen Hussain Mohammad Ershad was given a ceremonial welcome on his arrival in New Delhi on a 2-day visit this morning. He is accompanied by Begum Ershad. They were received by Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and members of the diplomatic corps.

Talking to newsmen, Lt Gen Ershad said he is optimistic that his talks with Mrs Gandhi would be fruitful. Expressing his happiness to be in India, Gen Ershad said he has brought with him ample good will of the people of Bangladesh for the people of India.

Meeting With Gandhi

BK061704 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] An agreement on setting up a joint economic commission between India and Bangladesh is being signed in New Delhi tomorrow. Accord in Tin Bigha [border enclave] is also expected to be signed as all the points in this regard have now been agreed upon.

This was announced at a joint press briefing by the spokesmen of the two sides in New Delhi this evening after a meeting between Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, the chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, and Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi.

They were together for about an hour and were later joined by their aides. The Indian side included Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Irrigation Minister Kedar Pandey, while Foreign Minister of Bangladesh A.R.S. Doha and Irrigation Minister Obaidullah Khan assisted General Ershad.

There were intensive discussions between the two sides during the day. It has been officially stated that most of the issues have been sorted out. Progress has also been made on the question of sharing the Ganges waters at Farakka and the augmentation of its flow. The discussions are continuing at the official level to tie up some loose ends which still remain.

The joint economic commission is expected to hold its first meeting shortly. In this context delegations of the two sides had an extended discussion on trade and economic relations and on the areas, scope and potential for cooperation. They noted that development of economic relationship has been pending for a long time and needs to be discussed in greater depth immediately. They agreed that there is considerable possibility of increasing trade while promoting greater balance, particularly through exports from Bangladesh to India. They also discussed industrial collaboration and possibility of joint ventures.

Banquet Remarks

BK070640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] India and Bangladesh have called for starting a new era of friendship based on trust and cooperation. Speaking at a banquet given in honor of Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen Ershad in New Delhi last night, Mrs Gandhi said there is a great scope for economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. She said India always wants to see Bangladesh stable and will cooperate with it. Mrs Gandhi hoped that the decision to set up a joint economic commission will give an impetus to the close relations.

Referring to the Nonaligned Movement, Mrs Gandhi stressed its role and said we must repudiate conflict between the North and the South. Referring to the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, the prime minister expressed the hope that the incidents like the massacre of Palestinians in West Beirut would not occur again.

Mrs Gandhi also expressed concern at the militarization and nuclearization of the Indian Ocean and the growing presence of outside powers. She said all those interested in the proposed conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace should work for its early meeting.

In his reply, General Ershad referred to the close relations between the two countries based on good will and neighborliness. He hoped that the two countries will find honorable and equitable solutions to their problems.

General Ershad said that India, with a highly cummulative experience in becoming a grain-surplus economy and one of the largest industrialized nations, can contribute greatly toward regional cooperation for development in South Asia.

He also expressed grave concern over the continued Israeli aggression against Lebanon. Referring to the Gulf war, General Ershad said both Iran and Iraq want peace and India and Bangladesh should try to bring the war to an end as early as possible.

General Ershad renewed his invitation to Mrs Gandhi to visit Bangladesh.

VENKATARAMAN COMMENTS ON KARAKORAM HIGHWAY

BK051019 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Defense Minister Venkataraman has said that the government is fully alive to the strategic implications of the opening of the Karakoram Highway. Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha, he said the government has seen reports of the link road-construction programs in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and along India's borders with Pakistan and China. However, there is no reliable information about the Chinese construction of the link roads in the area.

Venkataraman said our plans for defense preparedness are periodically reviewed and updated taking into account all developments which impinge on our security.

The house was also informed that there have been a few incidents of firing by Pakistani troops along the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir in the last 3 months. The firing has been unprovoked.

GANDHI SPEAKS ON NEED TO STRENGTHEN NAVAL FORCES

BK060432 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister has called for greater vigilance in view of the complex security environment around India. Addressing the senior naval officers' conference in New Delhi, Mrs Gandhi said the realistic policy will be to work for peace and at the same time get ready to face any challenge.

The prime minister said land resources are being depleted rapidly and nations are looking at the oceans for food and minerals. India has now the capacity to exploit her ocean resources and is the only country in the developing world to be accorded pioneer status in this field. In this context, she stressed the need for strengthening the navy and the coast guard.

In his inaugural address, the defense minister said that the government is fully aware of the need to give a new momentum for strengthening the navy. Venkataraman also said that government is alive to the welfare needs of the naval personnel

PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS MEERUT

BK070123 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] A 15-member all-party parliamentary team today visited the affected areas of Meerut city.

They held talks with prominent citizens and representatives of different organizations. Later, speaking to newsmen, the team members appealed to citizens to live in peace and good will.

GANDHI, HOME MINISTER SPEAK ON ASSAM ISSUE

BK070903 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] The prime minister today said that she would not mind intervening in the talks on the foreign nationals issue in Assam if it can help solve the problem. Intervening during question time in the Rajya Sabha, Mrs Gandhi said: It is our earnest desire to find a solution. We do not stand on prestige, but the rigid stand of the agitation leaders is coming in the way. Mrs Gandhi said she visited Assam to assist the views of different parties and groups. She had assured the people of Assam that, to begin with, post-1971 entrants would be identified and deported. Unfortunately, this was not agreed to by the agitation leaders who insisted on an overall settlement and nothing short of it. Mrs Gandhi told the members that the government would have to see how it can satisfy the agitation leaders without hurting the interests of minority communities.

Earlier, Home Minister Sethi told members about the Janata leader Ravindra Verma's formula. According to the formula, about 160,000 persons who came to Assam between 1961 and 1971 and have citizenship certificates should be recognized as Indian nationals. The cases of those who do not have the certificates should be referred to a tribunal. Those who do not fall in any of these categories should be deported. Sethi said the formula was not accepted by the agitation leaders and the combined talks were deadlocked. However, the government wants to resume the talks. This will be held on the 6th or 7th of next month.

PRESIDENT'S CONDITION REPORTED 'SATISFACTORY'

BK070636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] The condition of President Zail Singh is satisfactory after yesterday's surgery. This was stated in a medical bulletin issued at the Texas Heart Institute, Houston.

The operation was performed there by a team of doctors led by the world-renowned heart surgeon Dr Denton Cooley. After the surgery, the president was moved into the intensive care unit. A team of cardiologists and surgeons are attending to his medical care. Doctors said during his surgery arteries from Zail Singh's legs were taken and these were implanted in three partially blocked arteries leading from the heart. The operation lasted slightly less than 3 hours. Cardiologist Dr Birendra S. Mathur, who is attending on the president, said the operation had no significant problems and Zail Singh's progress is satisfactory.

Earlier, Zail Singh sent a letter to American President Reagan expressing his best wishes for the American people. He also said it was a pleasure for him to be in the United States even though it is for medical consultation.

HIDAYATULLAH SWORN IN AS ACTING PRESIDENT

BK070121 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Vice President Hidayatullah was today sworn in as acting president. This will enable him to discharge the functions of the president as Zail Singh is undergoing treatment at the Texas Heart Institute, Houston. Zail Singh is being operated upon today. The oath of office and secrecy to Hidayatullah was administered this evening at a brief ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Mrs Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and Lok Sabha Speaker Balram Jakhar were among those present.

The present arrangement is envisaged under Article 65 of the Constitution under which the vice president discharges the president's functions when the head of state is ill or otherwise unable to attend to his duties.

YAQUB KHAN ADDRESSES UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BK051251 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that Pakistan had participated in the recent Geneva indirect talks on Afghanistan in a positive and constructive spirit and looked forward to further progress in these talks initiated by the UN secretary general.

Addressing the UN General Assembly in New York last night he said Pakistan has sincerely cooperated with every international endeavor to seek a peaceful political settlement of the Afghanistan problem. He said Pakistan, which had been grievously affected by the crisis in its neighborhood, had a direct and vital stake in a peaceful political settlement of the Afghan people.

The foreign minister emphasized that the ramifications of the crisis in Afghanistan had made it imperative for Pakistan to maintain an adequate defense establishment. He said Pakistan cannot turn its eyes away from this imperative of maintaining a defense establishment commensurate with the size of the country and the length of its international border. He declared that Pakistan was not tied to any bloc or strategic consensus and its (?right) to have a minimum defense capability was an expression of its sovereign status as a nonaligned country. This should not be a matter of concern to others. He said we are sincerely endeavoring to turn these borders into frontiers of permanent peace.

Turning to Pakistan's relations with India, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan reiterated his country's desire for full normalization which was essential to the fulfillment of the aspirations of the two peoples to have peace and a life of dignity, well-being and prosperity. He recalled several initiatives, including the offer of a nonaggression pact, taken by Pakistan to foster an atmosphere of trust and confidence between the two countries. He also welcomed the suggestion by Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi for a joint commission and said that exchange of views on these proposals had been initiated. This, he said, augured well for the future of Pakistan-India relations on which the peace and tranquillity of the region largely depended. He underscored the need for the resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, which he said was the only outstanding problem between the two countries.

YAQUB KHAN MEETS WITH PRC'S HUANG HUA AT UN

BK061450 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has had a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Huang Hua in New York. Referring to the cooperation between the two countries, Huang Hua is understood to have expressed his appreciation for the principled stand taken by Pakistan on the Kampuchean issue.

Yaqub Khan informed the Chinese foreign minister that President Zia and he himself were looking forward to their forthcoming visit to the People's Republic of China. He hoped that the deep friendship and good neighborliness between the two countries could be further consolidated in the interest of the world peace.

IRAQI COUNTEROFFENSIVE REPULSED 6 OCTOBER

LD061102 Tehran IRNA in English 0947 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Zafar headquarters, Oct 5, IRNA -- The enemy's counter-offensives were repulsed today during the operation of Muslim ibn-e 'Aqil which was launched on last Friday with considerable victories over Iraqi Ba'thists. The reports said that the Iraqi mercenaries tried in vain to bomb the Islamic forces position and their planes were forced to flee.

According to these reports 3 tanks and a personnel carrier of the enemy were destroyed while 2 motorized units were set ablaze north of Mandali during the latest Iraqi counter-attacks.

TWO IRAQI HELICOPTERS DOWNED IN SOUTHERN REGION

GF070514 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0439 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] Please pay attention to a report just received: The Joint Staff of the armed forces has announced that at 1915 and 1933 last night two aggressor enemy helicopters in the southern region of the country were shot down by fighter planes and surface-to-air missiles.

INFORMATION OFFICE DENIES IRAQI WAR CLAIMS

LD062054 Tehran IRNA in English 1958 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct 6, IRNA -- The War Information Headquarters issued an announcement tonight denying Iraqi claims that the latter had occupied all territories recently liberated by the Islamic forces.

The announcement said that the Iraqi regime had begun yet another fallacious propaganda campaign today when it announced that the Iraqi aggressor had reoccupied the Iranian regions liberated in Friday's "Muslim ibn-e Aghil" offensive by the Islamic forces, in a counterattack this morning.

The lying regime of Baghdad that until yesterday had denied any advance by the Islamic forces, has as such confessed to the victories of the Islamic forces.

Furthermore this so-called victory by the Iraqis had been announced by the treacherous regime in Baghdad when all during today the fronts overlooking the Iraqi city of Mandali were calm and the foreign reporters invited there were inspecting the said fronts and observed the Iraqi city on top of the recaptured Iranian heights.

Such blasphemous loudspeakers, such as the BCC [as received] and the Zionist regime's radio, and the VOA interestingly had come to the rescue of Saddam as they had done before and had broadcast the Iraqi claim.

It concluded that just like when the defunct shah was spending his last days in Iran, the Iraqi regime had also begun stating lies and hallucinations as the two had similar fates.

This has not been the first time that the tottering regime of Saddam Husayn used such distorting and unfounded statements in order to save its foot on the ground for only a few days.

All during the Iraqi imposed war Iraq had denied all victories of the Islamic forces, and after it, the imperialist mass media had reflected them with great noise.

The breaking of the siege around Abadan in Sept of 1981, the liberation of Bostan, the liberation of regions west of Shush and Dezful, and most important of all, the liberation of Khorramshahr only in a 12 hour night attack last May, are some which we can remind the honest people of the world of. In these instances Iraq, without any exception, denied the victories of the Islamic combatants but was only forced to confess to "strategic retreat" of its forces.

In Operation "Muslim ibn-e Aghil" which began on Friday, the Islamic forces recaptured strategic heights in the Iranian border region of Sumar, over looking the Iraqi border city of Mandali, in a matter of few hours.

MILITARY SUCCESSES ON BAYAT, MEYMAK FRONTS CITED

LD061750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, during guerrilla operations launched at dawn today by our brothers from the Islamic revolution guards deployed on the Bayat front and supported by effective mortar and 106-mm gun fire, Islam's combatants succeeded in killing 12 enemy mercenaries and in destroying 50 trenches and foxholes.

According to this report, our self-sacrificing brothers from the Guards Corps on the Meymak front, employing medium-heavy and light artillery fire, subjected enemy positions to withering and effective fire as a result of which 30 mercenaries were either killed or wounded and 11 trenches and foxholes and 2 observation posts were destroyed.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,071

LD061742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Communique No 1,071 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 0940 this morning, the proud combatants of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed Saddamist positions and units in the west of our country and inside Iraqi territory and inflicted considerable losses and casualties upon the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries. On completing this successful mission, the fighter aircraft of the air force returned safely to their bases.

In the past 24 hours, heavy fighting and exchanges of fire continued on the western fronts of the country; they were more intense in the Meymak region. Consolidating and stabilizing their defense positions, the combatants of Islam defend their positions bravely and with utmost devotion repulse any activity and movement of the Saddamist forces.

In the Naftshahr area, a parking lot belonging to the Saddamists was set on fire by the heavy artillery fire of the ground forces. Vehicles in the lot suffered considerable damage.

On one of the Sumar fronts, devotees of the Army Aviation Corps and the intense and accurate artillery fire of the ground forces on the positions of the aggressive Iraqi forces set fire to and destroyed two ammunition dumps and one tank belonging to the Iraqi forces. On another front in this area, two Saddamist tanks completely were destroyed by the fire of the combatants of Islam.

On the Marivan front, the combatants of Islam pounded enemy positions, destroying a number of trenches and foxholes of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

On the southern fronts, the victorious combatants of Islam are still in control of their defensive positions. On most of these fronts, exchanges of fire continue; they have been more intense on the Shalemcheh front.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the heroes of the navy and the brave combatants of the gendarmerie opened fire on enemy positions on the other side of Arvand Rud [Shatt al-Arab]. They silenced enemy fire and inflicted losses on the Saddamist forces so that, on the Abadan front, five trenches were destroyed and a number of their personnel were killed.

On 2 October, the heroes of the gendarmerie dispatched patrol units to one of the Khorramshahr fronts and dealt necessary blows to the enemy. They seized the following items from the mercenary Saddamist forces as spoils of war: seven Kalashnikov rifles, one RPG-7 missile launcher, two radios and a quantity of ammunition.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

FOREIGN JOURNALISTS VISIT 'LIBERATED AREAS'

LD061246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, 20 reporters, photographers and film crews of NHK, KYODO, ASAHI SHIMBUN, XINHUA [as heard] France-Presse and (DAILY NEWS), new agencies of Japan, France, Korea and Britain, yesterday arrived at the fronts in the operational zones in the west. They gathered in the headquarters of the operation commanders, one of whom, while explaining the details of the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operations on a map, said:

The aggressive enemy was stationed in the (Kohnerud), (Miyan Tang), (Mishcheh), (Dolashkar) and (Pol-e Sang) heights and other heights overlooking the Iranian town of Sumar and had occupied our country's territory, while claiming it had returned to its international borders. At the moment, it also claims it had not lost these heights. However, you will see the heights that the victorious fighters of imam have occupied with full force, thus exposing the falsity of the enemy claims.

He added: Participating in the operations carried out in this region were the 46th Iraqi Infantry Brigade, the border guards brigade, one tank battalion and the 16th Brigade from the 6th Iraq Armored Division. With the least number of forces and equipment, we succeeded in recapturing these heights, which had the strongest fortifications, overlook the Iraqi town of Mandali and offer the shortest route to Baghdad.

'During the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operations, our enemy made use of numerous minefields, booby-traps and canisters of poisonous liquids and poison gas [gazhay-e khafekonandeh]. You will see all these with your own eyes. However, despite all this, we were victorious. So far, we have neutralized 21 enemy counterattacks and have destroyed 2 Iraqi brigades and 1 tank battalion. In the course of these operations, our forces recaptured 150 square km of Islamic homeland territory and cleansed the area from the filthy existence of the Saddam forces.

The operational commander of Muslim ibn 'Aqil operations added: So far, we have not fired one shot against the Iraqi town of Mandali; this is because of our Islamic attitude. He added: In these operations, 39 enemy tanks and armored personnel carriers were destroyed and 9 tanks and armored personnel carriers, 3 100-mm guns, 1 80-mm gun, 4 106-mm guns, 4 (shinkof) antiaircraft guns, 1 radar unit, 1 artillery rangefinder, a number of heavy and light vehicles and a quantity of light weapons and ammunition were captured by the fighters of Islam. More than 250 Iraqi officers, NCO's and soldiers also were captured by the forces of Islam; more than 1,500 enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

After the explanations of the commander of the Muslim ibn-'Aqil operations, the reporters and film crews left for the heights captured by the forces of Islam and shot films, took photographs and made reports about this region conquered by the victorious forces of Islam last Friday.

While visiting the liberated areas, the AFP correspondent said in an interview with the Central News Unit: I have visited the southern fronts before. I will admit that we saw here what is reported in your military communiques. The city of Mandali is clearly visible and I can see it easily. In view of this victory by the Iranian Army, I think it must be very difficult for the Iraqi Army to carry on.

In reply to a question about his observations inside Iran, the French correspondent said: Here I witnessed the devotion and self-sacrifices of the Iranians, which is unbelievable. We realized the Iranian people are determined to regain their occupied homeland, although Iraq is equipped with the most powerful combat weapons. The Iranians are united, believing and self-sacrificing.

Our correspondent asked: Have you visited Iraq before? The French news agency correspondent replied: I have visited Iraq. However, most of the scenes I observed were artificial and anybody could easily notice this.

According to this report, the Japanese correspondents, in an interview with our correspondent, were also unanimous in the view that the Iranians have achieved what they wanted in the area and can continue in this manner until the liberation of all their territories.

According to the Central News Unit report, the foreign media reporters continued their inspections of the victories of the victorious fighters of Islam in the liberated areas and produced reports, films and photographs.

AFP Disclaimer

NC061801 [Editorial Report] Paris AFP in English at 1736 GMT on 6 October transmitted he following advisory:

"Attn eds, following statements attributed by Iranian radio to foreign correspondents in Iran, Agence France-Presse informs subscribers that its correspondents accredited in Tehran have never made any such statements to the Iranian media, and no such statements may be expected in the future. The editor-in-chief."

UN ENVOY REJECTS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

LD061430 Tehran IRNA in English 1002 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA -- Iranian permanent representative at the UN, Seyyed Raja'i-Khorasani, Monday night rejected the pre-arranged Security Council's resolution and stressed that the counci was unable to take a constructive stance for the establishment of justice and revival of legitimate rights of the people who were fighting for the liberation of occupied lands of their country.

Speaking in a press conference at the UN Raja'i-Khorasani referring to Iran's non-participation at the Security Council's session, held upon Iraq's session [as received], said that Iran believed that the Security Council had failed to accomplish provisions of the UN Charter.

During the past two years when 20 Iranian cities and 1,200 villages were under the occupation of the Iraqi Army and residential areas were under the fire of their artillery and bombardments, the Security Council took no measures and remained silent, Raja'i-Khorasani emphasized.

The Iranian representative further stressed that the council paid no attention even to the refugees of two million Iranians, as well as martyrdom of 2,000 of others.

Declaring the recapture of strategic heights in western Iran from the Iraqi occupation, Raja'i-Khorasani said that legitimate defense of Iranian forces was being reviewed at the Security Council as a threat for international peace and security. But on the contrary, the Iranian envoy added, when such a peace and security was endangered by the Iraqi aggression, the council not only did not condemn Iraq for such an action but remained as an indifferent observer not even asking the Iraqi regime to withdraw its forces from the Iranian territory.

Therefore, Iran believed that the Security Council, especially when headed by the Jordanian representative whose country was actively cooperating with Iraq in its aggression against Iran, was not the base for the establishment of justice, Raja'i-Khorasani said.

He added that Iran rejected the resolution stressing that the Jordanian representative under the pretext of holding the session to be informed of the two parties views, intended to bring the Iranian envoy to the negotiations table and they impose the pre-arranged resolution prepared by Iraq to the session.

When asked whether Iran could accept a cease-fire after recovering all its occupied territory, the Iranian diplomat said that there were many problems to be settled with the aggressor, and if they were not solved through peaceful means, then the struggle would be continued until the rights were gained.

He reiterated that the Iraqi regime had to pay for the damages it has inflicted on Iran and at the same time there must be an assurance for Iran that it would not be attacked again.

Raja'i-Khorasani further told reporters that some 120,000 Iraqi deportees now living in Iran, must be returned to Iraq. As for the extent of damage caused by the Iraqi imposed war, he said that in order to understand the dimensions of it one must go to the course of the war, the Iraqi troops, have destroyed some 20 cities, more than 1,200 villages, the largest refinery of the world in Abadan as well as a large number of hospitals, schools and mosques, he added. As for the human losses, many have been martyred. The extent of the damage was not comprehendable for human mind, he added.

The Iranian representative to the U.N. once again emphasized that the Islamic Republic would welcome any efforts for the establishment of a just peace.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR UN SESSION 7 OCTOBER

GF070737 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Oct 82

[Text] 'Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign affairs minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, left Tehran today for New York. He is leading an Iranian delegation to take part in the 37th session of the UN General Assembly. The foreign affairs minister will deliver a speech at the UN General Assembly, during which he will explain the international stands of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

OPERATIONS AGAINST 'HYPOCRITES' IN KHUZESTAN

LD060822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Oct 82

[Text] The Publicity Office of the Islamic revolution committees announced:

After the brave operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Khuzestan Province to root out the conspiracies of the hypocrites organization, which were carried out under the codename O Husayn Give Us Command, some other plots of the hypocrites in this province were neutralized and more than 30 high-ranking cadres of this satanic organization and of the minority wing of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization were arrested or killed in Shushtar and Masjed Soleyman. A considerable quantity of weapons, explosives and other material necessary for the construction of bombs, equipment for duplicating tapes and a large number of important organizational documents were discovered and seized in these operations.

GUARDS KILL, CAPTURE 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

LD051832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report quoting the news headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the fighters of Islam on 3 October bravely attacked a position near (Kulaneh) garrison in Reza'iyeh region and eight illegal counterrevolutionary elements were killed, wounded or arrested. Membership cards belonging to the defunct Kurdish Democratic Party and one G-3 weapon were seized from those arrested.

CLANDESTINE RADIO DESCRIBES VILLAGE MASSACRE

NC021411 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 1 Oct 82

[Text] Fifty-one residents of a village called (Dehgard) in the forests in the north were massacred by the regime's revolution guards.

A Voice of Iran correspondent in Paris writes in a report quoting the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization that this organization has sent a message to the UN secretary general informing him of the massacre of the (Dehgard) villagers and has asked for his assistance in preventing the continuation of these massacres. This letter states that the village has less than 4,000 residents and that, because of opposition to Khomeyni's regime, 20 of its residents have been imprisoned while 12 others have had to flee. The bodies of the people killed apparently have been buried in the woods and areas around the village. However, to further terrorize the villagers, the regime's revolution guards disintered the body of the village teacher and threw it in front of his father's house.

The Mojahedin-e Khalq organization has learned of this massacre through a villager who witnessed the killings. Tortured by the regime's revolution guards, he was able to escape to France where he asked the French Government for asylum. He has said he is prepared to testify before any international court on the massacre of the (Dehgard) villagers.

TRIBESMEN PLEDGE SUPPORT TO ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

GF041610 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 4 Oct 82

[Text] Shiraz, Oct 4, IRNA -- A huge gathering of Muslim tribesmen of Firuzabad in Fars Province, southern Iran, Sunday pledged their support for the Islamic Republic and its recent measure in sending before a firing squad Khosrow Qashqa'i, head of the tribal bandits.

The massive demonstration was concluded by the release of a seven-point resolution in which tribesmen announced their preparedness to fight for Islam and the Islamic Republic, and against counterrevolutionaries.

The resolution also condemned last Friday's bomb blast in Tehran's Naser-Khosrwo Avenue which claimed the lives of some 60 people and injured over 700 others.

Meanwhile, the Iranian Defense Ministry in a statement today denounced the same bomb explosion stressing that such a malicious act took place simultaneously with the achievement of outstanding victories by the Islamic combatants in the warfronts of the Iraqi imposed war. But, the statement assured, the vigilant Iranians would thwart all U.S.-sponsored conspiracies and would give its response to the bomb planter, to the Iraqi Ba'thists in the battlefields.

TEHRAN REPORTS ON AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN OPERATIONS

GF271354 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Sep 82

[Text] In their operation against government and Soviet forces in the provinces of Bamian and Nimruz, the Muslim Afghan mujahidin killed 72 government and Soviet soldiers and destroyed 5 tanks and 1 troop carrier.

In another operation, the Muslim Afghan mujahidin attacked the Defense Ministry building, killing six and inflicting heavy losses on the government and Soviet forces.

Soviet Helicopter Downed

LD301156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Sep 82

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, in an air attack launched a few days ago by 12 Soviet helicopters and a number of MiG's against (Kolab) village in (Ahri) region, Herat Province, this village, which had 1,500 homes, was razed to the ground. According to these reports, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries had foreseen this attack and had asked the village inhabitants to leave. As a result, only three people were martyred during the bombardment.

During this attack, one Soviet helicopter was downed as the result of the fire of the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries. According to these reports, during an intense 2-day battle between Muslim Afghan revolutionaries and the joint Soviet occupation forces and the government forces of Afghanistan in (Golnam) region, Herat Province, 200 of the joint forces were killed or wounded and 4 of their tanks were captured by Muslim Afghan revolutionaries.

Zabol Province Clash

GF020808 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Oct 82

[Text] In a battle between the Soviet and Afghan Government forces in the Qalat region of Zabol Province in southern Afghanistan, about 42 persons from both sides were killed. This battle took place following the defeat of both Soviet and Afghan forces by the Afghan Muslim mujahidin and due to the refusal of both the Soviet and Afghan sides to accept responsibility for this defeat. As a result of the events, a high-ranking delegation left Kabul for the Qalat region to investigate. Following its investigation, the delegation arrested two senior Afghan officers.

IRNA: WEST SEPARATING AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN, IRAN

LD032028 Tehran IRNA in English 1939 GMT 3 Oct 82

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 3, IRNA -- Western countries are attempting to sow discord among various combatant Muslim organisations with the objective of bringing to power another lackey regime in Afghanistan, said (Hojjat ol-Eslam Mir-Hoseyn Sadeqi), a member of the Executive Council of Afghanistan's Nasr organisation.

He added that two weeks ago leaders of mujahideen in Peshawar were invited to attend a session in New York but they left the meeting when they noticed the presence of Zahir Shah (former king of Afghanistan, crowned in 1933).

(Hojjat ol-Eslam Sadeqi) noted that Muslims were being surrounded by government and Soviet forces in central areas for 40 days and as a result are suffering a shortage of foodstuffs and medicine. He stressed tht the preventing of Afghan Shi'a Muslims from entering Iran through Pakistan was one of the steps taken by the West to separate Afghan revolutionaries from the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking on the tour of Pakistani officials to the Soviet Union, the Hojjat ol-Eslam said that talks concerning Afghan Muslims had already begun and would continue.

BRIEFS

SOVIET-IRAN TRADE STATISTICS -- A total of 110,151 tons of goods have been exported by the Soviet Union to Iran during the 23 July-22 August period, by way of Jolfa, Bandar Anzali, Bandar Nowshahr and Astara. The transit goods imported amount to 177,673 tons and exports to 6,089 tons. The amount of goods exchanged during this period totaled 115,458 tons. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 23 Sep 82 p 19 GF]

BOJNURD OIL INSTALLATIONS -- The Bojnurd oil installations were opened in the presence of the head of the National Iranian Oil Company and began operating as a result of the efforts of the company's personnel. The installations consist of 5 huge storage tanks with a total capacity of 5 million liters and 10 modern pumping stations with automated filling and emptying devices. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 23 Sep 82 p 9 GF]